GOP'S STEELE CALLS FOR REID TO RESIGN OVER RACIAL REMARK 4

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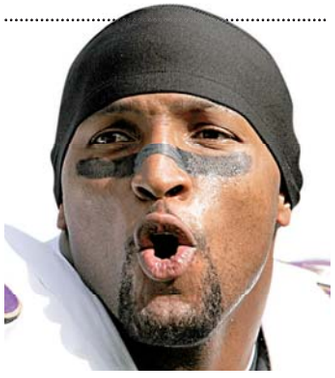
Monday

PRIME-TIME FLOP

NBC cancels Leno's show but wants him back in a later slot **24**

TAI SHAN WHO?

The National Zoo hopes its insemination of Mei Xiang works **13**



BALTIMORE BEATDOWN

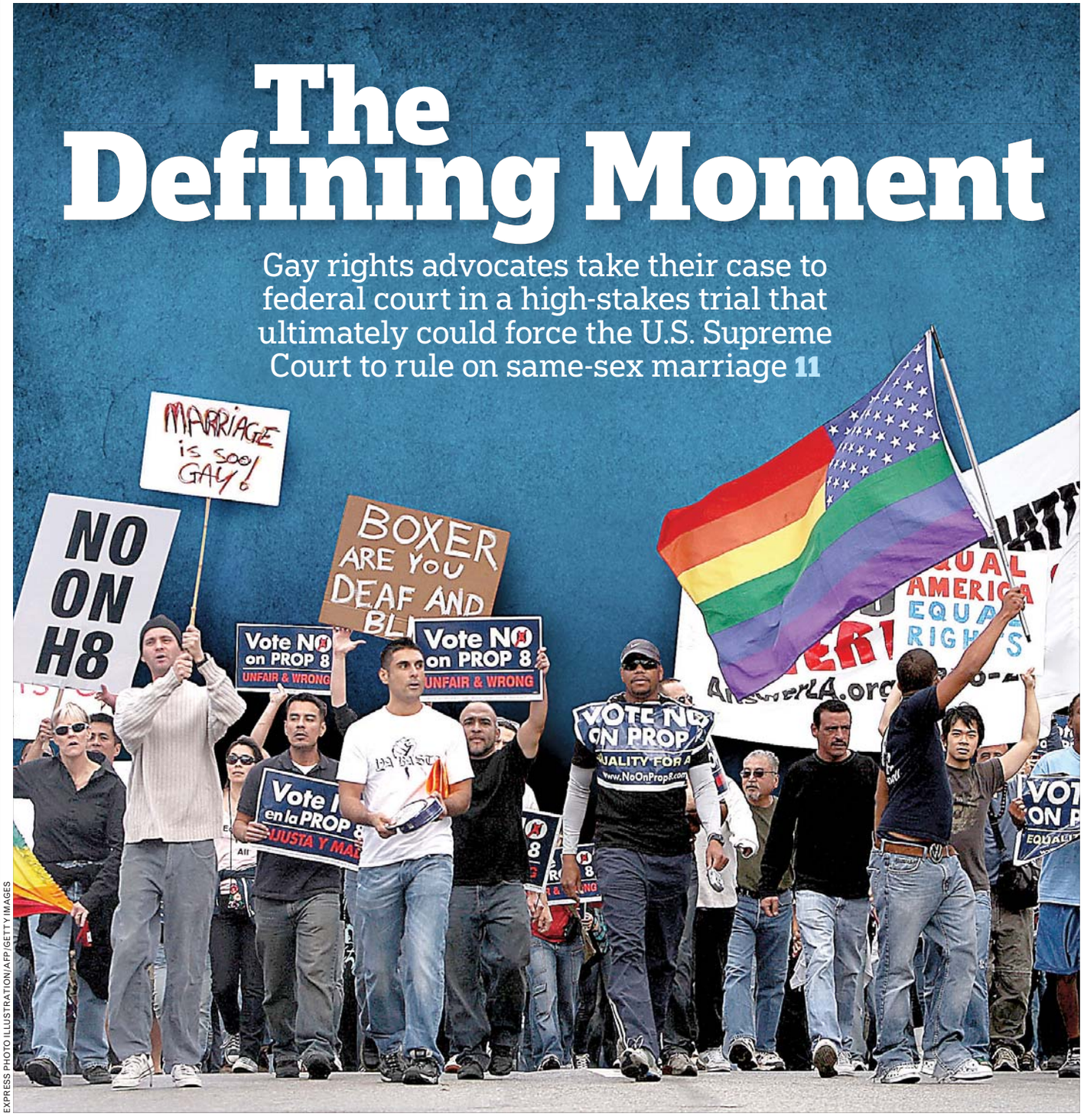
The Ravens make short work of Brady and the Patriots **14**

am 36 | 24 pm

FOR EXTENDED FORECAST, SEE PAGE 29

The Defining Moment

Gay rights advocates take their case to federal court in a high-stakes trial that ultimately could force the U.S. Supreme Court to rule on same-sex marriage **11**



EXPRESS PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

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EYE OPENERS

Man Accepts Need for $50 With Exceptional Dignity

A man has been jailed on charges he stole $50 from his ex-girlfriend at a Uniontown, Pa., Wal-Mart store and then tried to flee on a store-owned motorized shopping scooter on Tuesday. Craig David Jr. had just been released from a hospital, where he was treated for being hit with a frying pan and a table leg during a domestic dispute Jan. 1. He was still in a hospital gown. (AP)

Don't Tase Me, Ho, Ho, Ho

A Zephyr Hills, Fla., woman was arrested after allegedly using a stun gun on a woman who tried to hug her on Christmas night. Deborah Downing was charged with aggravated battery, petty theft and violation of pretrial release. Sheri Brennan was picking up a friend when the incident occurred. Brennan was shocked about eight times in the stomach after trying to hug Downing. She was not seriously injured. (AP)

Steak Peeved That It Needs New Masseuse

A South Carolina man has been sentenced to 10 years in prison for stealing an $80 slab of meat. Mark Zachary received the maximum sentence after jurors on Wednesday found him guilty of shoplifting. Prosecutors said the sentence was justified because the Aug. 26 theft from Reid's grocery store in Orangeburg was his ninth offense. Zachary testified he was "massaging" the meat, not stealing it. (AP)

The Big Picture

BIKAS DAS/AP

A HINDU HOLY MAN whose face is smeared with ash exhales after puffing marijuana on the way to Gangasagar, India, on Saturday. Pilgrims started to pour into the city with plans to take a holy dip at the confluence of the River Ganges and the Bay of Bengal at Sagar Island on the auspicious day of Makar Sankranti, Jan. 14. (AP)

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In Brief

HOUSTON

Teenager Denies Hiring Friend to Kill His Mother

Minhas

A 17-year-old who Houston police say admitted hiring a friend to kill his mother is denying involvement in the stabbing death. Police say Danish Minhas has told investigators he hired Nur J. Mohamed, 18, to kill his mother because she was too controlling. But Minhas told the Houston Chronicle he gave the statement "out of necessity" and insisted Mohamed acted alone. (AP)

SALISBURY, VT.

3 Killed on Snowmobiles

Three snowmobiles crossing a frozen Vermont lake plunged through the ice Saturday, killing a man, his 24-year-old daughter and his 3-year-old granddaughter, police said. The snowmobiles were carrying six people on Lake Dunmore when the accident occurred about 100 yards from shore at about noon on Saturday. (AP)

NEWARK, N.H.

Jet Lands Without Gear

A United Airlines flight landed with part of the plane's belly or wing striking a runway at Newark Liberty International Airport on Sunday after the right-side landing gear failed to deploy. All 53 passengers got off the plane safely. (AP)

Calif. Quake Leaves Mess Behind

Shaken residents clean up debris after brush with disaster

Eureka, Calif.

Residents of a Northern California county gingerly cleaned up Sunday after the area dodged a catastrophe, escaping a 6.5-magnitude earthquake with little more than bumps, cuts and broken glass.

Entrances at Eureka's Bayshore Mall were blocked off as engineers surveyed for damage. Area bridges suffered some bent rails, and local stores reported messy aisles where bottles and jars flew from shelves and shattered, authorities said.

But the Saturday afternoon temblor — centered in the Pacific about 22 miles west of Ferndale — caused no major injuries and only limited structural damage.

"I think we can attribute some of this to being prepared," said Phil Smith-Hanes, Humboldt County spokesman. "Folks in this area are used to living in earthquake country."

The quake's location — offshore, deep under the ocean and away from urban areas — helped the region escape relatively unscathed what could have been a major disaster. A quake of similar size — 6.7 magnitude — killed 72 people and caused $25 billion in damage in 1994 in the Los Angeles area.

Rick Littlefield, owner of Eureka Natural Foods, said earthquakes are "part of the rules of the game up here."

The quake left some of the grocery store's aisles ankle-deep in broken bottles, jars and spilled goods, a loss Littlefield estimated at about $20,000. When the temblor hit Saturday afternoon, there were about 150 people shopping, he said.

"A lot of customers freaked," he said Sunday morning. "People just dropped what they had — in the checkstand even. People who were in the middle of a transaction just bailed and left their stuff."

Power outages were widespread, affecting about 25,000 customers initially, but a quick response restored electricity to all by early Sunday morning.

DON THOMPSON (AP)

SHAUN WALKER/AP

Eureka Natural Foods employees Joshua Hylton, right, and Brendan Killeen clean up the store's wine section on Sunday, the day after a 6.5-magnitude earthquake.

FLASHBACK

Sarah Palin believed that Sen. John McCain chose her to be his running mate in 2008 because of "God's plan," according to a strategist in the campaign. In an interview with "60 Minutes," Steve Schmidt said he asked Palin about her serenity in the face of becoming "one of the most famous people in the world" after McCain interviewed her for VP. He quoted her as saying, "It's God's plan." Palin's spokeswoman, Meg Stapleton, disputes the account. (AP)

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Nation

Steele: Reid Should Quit

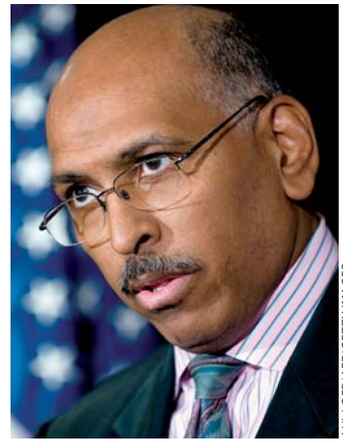
Dem leader issued apology to Obama for racial statement

Politics

Republican National Committee Chairman Michael Steele said that Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., should resign from office after acknowledging that he had described President Obama as "light skinned" and possessing no "Negro dialect" in a conversation with reporters.

"There is this standard where Democrats feel that they can say these things and they can apologize when it comes from the mouths of their own," said Steele in an interview with "Fox News Sunday." "But if it comes from anyone else, it is racism."

Steele compared Reid's comments about Obama to remarks made by then-Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott in 2002 in which the Mississippi Republican, at a birthday party for South Carolina Sen. Strom Thurmond, said that "all these problems" might not have occurred if Thurmond had been elected president in 1948.



AUL LOEB/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

RNC Chair Michael Steele says Democrats have a double standard on racism.

Unlike Lott, however, Reid immediately apologized for his remarks and received a strong statement of support from the president. Obama, in a statement released Saturday, said that he accepted Reid's apology and that the "book is closed" on the story.

Steele, in the same interview with "Fox News Sunday," reiterated that he has no plans to step aside from his post — even after a week of Republican squabbles caused by the release of his book charting a new way forward for the GOP.

The controversy over the book, which Republicans in Congress said they had not been made aware of prior to publication, came just days after Steele had angered many GOP officials by saying he didn't believe the party could win the House.

CHRIS CILLIZZA (THE WASHINGTON POST)

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Nation

Toxic Metal Found in Kids' Items

AP: Manufacturers in China replacing lead with carcinogen

Los Angeles

Barred from using lead in children's jewelry because of its toxicity, some Chinese manufacturers have been substituting the more dangerous heavy metal cadmium in sparkling charm bracelets and shiny pendants being sold throughout the United States, an Associated Press investigation shows.

The most contaminated piece analyzed in lab testing performed for the AP contained a startling 91 percent cadmium by weight. The cadmium content of other contaminated trinkets, all purchased at national and regional chains or franchises, tested at 89 percent, 86 percent and 84 percent by weight.

TONY DEJAK/AP

The toxic metal cadmium was found in this Christmas pendant for children.

Cadmium is a known carcinogen. Like lead, it can hinder brain development in the very young, according to recent research.

Children don't have to swallow an item to be exposed — they can get persistent, low-level doses by regularly sucking or biting jewelry with a high cadmium content.

To gauge cadmium's prevalence in children's jewelry, the AP organized lab testing of 103 items bought in New York, Ohio, Texas and California. The results: 12 percent of the jewelry contained at least 10 percent cadmium.

Some of the most troubling test results were for bracelet charms sold at Wal-Mart, at the jewelry chain Claire's and at a dollar store. High amounts of cadmium also were detected in "The Princess and the Frog" movie-themed pendants.

Jewelry industry veterans in China say cadmium has been used in domestic products there for years. A patchwork of federal consumer protection regulations does nothing to keep these nuggets of cadmium from U.S. store shelves. **JUSTIN PRITCHARD (AP)**

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When Darrald Starling of Cleveland, OH, met his wife Tracy, she was a fun loving young lady who loved to smile. But after several years of dental trauma, the woman he fell in love with started to change. Her conventional dentist removed all of her teeth and Tracy at 29, was wearing full dentures. She refused to smile, never laughed. She didn't even want to leave her home. Starling was living a life of pain and shame - until the couple came to ClearChoice where Tracy got a new set of implants and beautiful teeth that were fixed in place. Her life changed dramatically.

Actual ClearChoice Patient

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"The experience was everything I wanted – and more," exclaimed Margie Smith of Dallas, TX. After having to live with deteriorating teeth and broken bridgework, Margie received a complete mouth restoration at ClearChoice Dental Implant Center. She specifically noted the level of communication at ClearChoice. It was clear that the staff worked closely together to insure a seamless standard of care.

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Patients receive complete, fast, and convenient treatment all in one location. Each ClearChoice Dental Implant Center has an experienced team of dental professionals, 3D CAT scanning technology, and a specialized On-site Dental Implant Lab, which sets ClearChoice apart from traditional dental treatment providers.

ClearChoice is one of the select few dental implant centers in the world to use 3D CAT Scans for diagnosis and treatment planning. Only taking approximately 20 seconds, the scan supports a higher level of patient care. 3D CAT Scans allow a detailed look at existing teeth, bone, nerves, and tissue.

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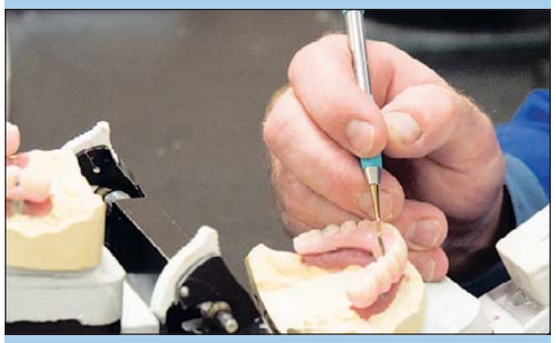

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World

Yemen Supports Al-Qaeda Talks

President's openness to dialogue has the U.S. wary of leniency

Sanaa, Yemen

Yemen's president said he is ready to talk to al-Qaeda members who renounce violence, suggesting he could show them the same kind of leniency he has granted militants in the past despite U.S. pressure to crack down on the terror group.

Yemen is moving cautiously in the terror fight, worried over a potential backlash in a country where anger at the U.S. and extremism are widespread. Thousands of Yemenis are battle-hardened veterans of past "holy wars" in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Chechnya and Iraq, and though most are not engaged in violence now, they preserve a die-hard al-Qaeda ideology.

"Any movement against al-Qaeda will lead to the fall of the Yemeni regime," warned Ali Mohammed Omar, a Yemeni who fought in Afghanistan from 1990 to 1992 and says he met Osama bin Laden twice during that time.

If the U.S. or its allies become directly involved, "the whole [Yemeni] people will become al-Qaeda. Instead of 30 or 40 people, it would become millions," he told The Associated Press.

Yemen recently launched its heaviest strikes and raids against al-Qaeda in years, and Washington has praised Sanaa for showing a new determination against the militants' offshoot in the country.

But President Ali Abdullah Saleh's comments raised the possiblity he could continue a policy that has frustrated U.S. officials in the past — releasing al-Qaeda militants on promises they will not engage in terrorism again. Several have since broken those pledges.

"Dialogue is the best way ... even with al-Qaeda, if they set aside their weapons and return to reason," Saleh said on Abu Dhabi TV. (AP)

Togo Team Quits Tournament After Attack

DARKO BANDIC/AP

POLICE SECURE the compound where the African Cup of Nations soccer teams are based in Cabinda, Angola, Sunday. Togo withdrew from the event after three people were killed and eight were injured in an ambush of its team bus Friday.

Explosion Kills U.K. Journalist In Afghanistan

London

An explosion outside a village in southern Afghanistan killed a U.S. Marine and a veteran war correspondent who became the first British journalist killed in the conflict, officials said.

Hamer

With the death of Sunday Mirror journalist Rupert Hamer, 18 reporters have been killed in Afghanistan since the invasion after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists. "Tragically, it was a matter of time," former British forces commander Col. Richard Kemp told Sky News. (AP)

PENALTIES

A Swiss court's record $290,000 speeding ticket fine issued to a millionaire Ferrari owner is being hailed as a step in the right direction. Increasingly, European nations are pegging speeding fines to income, with Germany's $16 million maximum the highest possible penalty. "As far as we're concerned, this is very good," said Swiss road safety advocate Sabine Jurisch of November's huge fine, which only recently came to light. (AP)

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EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

'Allah' Divides Country

Malaysian church attacks spark fears amid religious feud

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Eight churches have been attacked over three days amid a dispute over the use of the word "Allah" by non-Muslims, sparking fresh political instability that is denting Malaysia's image as a moderate and stable Muslim-majority nation.

The unprecedented attacks have set off a wave of disquiet among Malaysia's minority Christians and strained their ties with the majority Malay Muslims. About 9 percent of Malaysia's 28 million people are Christian, most of whom are ethnic Chinese or Indian. Muslims make up 60 percent of the population, and most are ethnic Malays.

The attacks were a blow to unity espoused by Prime Minister Najib Razak under his "1Malaysia" slogan since taking power in April, and weakened him as he aims to strengthen his coalition after its losses in 2008 general elections.

SAEED KHAN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Malaysian Christians attend a Sunday service inside a church near Kuala Lumpur.

Backstory

Many Muslims are angry about a Dec. 31 high court decision overturning a government ban on Roman Catholics' using "Allah" to refer to their God in the Malay-language edition of their main newspaper, the Herald. The ruling also applies to the ban's broader applications such as Malay-language Bibles, 10,000 copies of which were seized because they translated "God" as "Allah." **(AP)**

"It showed that, after 52 years of living together, nation building and national unity is in tatters," said Charles Santiago, an opposition Member of Parliament. "The church attacks shattered notions of Malaysia as a model secular Muslim nation in the eyes of the international community.

"Malaysians are now living in fear of a racial clash following the church attacks and rising orthodox Islamic tones in the country," Santiago said. **(AP)**

ECZEMA

Eczema Skin Study in Children

The Eczema Skin Study looks at how microbes, such as bacteria and fungi, contribute to the skin condition of atopic dermatitis, or "eczema". The Eczema Skin Study needs children between 2 to 12 years of age with eczema who have a primary care physician, and who are willing to travel to the NIH Clinical Center. Interested individuals who are eligible to participate will have their skin evaluated and sampled, as well as have a consultation with a board-certified dermatologist. A small blood sample will be collected. Qualified participants will receive compensation for their time.

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World

China Tops World's Exporters

Country celebrates new status as proof of economic power

Beijing

Already the biggest auto market and steelmaker, China edged past Germany in 2009 to become the top exporter, yet another sign of its rapid rise and the spread of economic power from West to East.

Exports in 2009 totalled more than $1.2 trillion, China's customs agency said Sunday. That was ahead of the 816 billion euros ($1.17 trillion) forecast for Germany by its foreign trade organization, BGA.

ELIZABETH DALZIEL/AP

Chinese cargo waits to be shipped. China overtook Germany as the top exporter.

China's new status is mostly symbolic but highlights its growing presence as an industrial power, major buyer of oil, iron ore and other commodities and, increasingly, as an investor and key voice in managing the global economy.

Its ability to unseat longtime export leader Germany reflects the ability of agile, low-cost Chinese manufacturers to keep selling abroad even as other exporters have been hammered by a slump in global demand.

China overtook Germany in 2007 as the third-largest economy and is expected to unseat Japan as No. 2 behind the United States as early as this year. Its trade boom has helped Beijing pile up the world's biggest foreign currency reserves at more than $2 trillion.

JOE MCDONALD (AP)

Hearsay

"We have to do everything we can ... to support the people of Iran, to cry out against the human rights abuses, the terrible repression of the demonstrators and just the freedom of average citizens in Iran."

— **SEN. JOE LIEBERMAN,** I-CONN., WHO ADDED THAT THE POST-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION PROTESTS MAY MARK "THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF THE REPRESSIVE EXTREMIST REGIME IN TEHRAN."

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A Landmark Lawsuit

Blockbuster trial could determine the fate of same-sex marriage nationwide

San Francisco

The long debate over same-sex marriage will take center stage in a California courtroom this week at a closely watched federal trial that could ultimately become the landmark case that determines whether homosexual Americans have a right to marry.

The case will decide a challenge to the state's ban on gay marriage, known as Proposition 8, that was approved by voters in 2008. The ruling in the trial is likely to be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, so the case could ultimately decide whether gay marriage will become legal in all 50 states.

"This could be our Brown vs. Board of Education," said former White House adviser Richard Socarides, referring to the 1954 Supreme Court decision that outlawed racial segregation in public schools. "Certainly the plaintiffs will tell you they are hoping for a broad ruling that says that any law that treats someone differently because of sexual orientation violates the U.S. Constitution."

The case marks the first federal trial to examine whether the U.S. Constitution allows the banning of marriages between couples of the same sex. The challenge is being bankrolled by a group of liberal Hollywood activists led by director Rob Reiner.

They retained two of the nation's most influential lawyers to argue the case — former U.S. Solicitor General Theodore Olson and trial lawyer David Boies. The lawyers are best known as the rivals who represented George W. Bush and Al Gore in the dispute over the 2000 presidential election in Florida.

The sponsors of the gay marriage ban, a coalition of religious and conservative groups, joined the case as defendants. Their legal team is being led by Charles Cooper, a trial lawyer who worked for the Justice Department under former President Ronald Reagan.

Testimony in the trial will explore many of the most contentious political arguments surrounding the issue. Leaders of the campaign to ban gay marriage have been called as witnesses, along with competing academic experts who will be cross-examined on topics ranging from how having same-sex parents affects children to whether gay unions undermine male-female unions.

"What sets this case apart is [that] the strategy, up until now, in the last 10 or 15 years, has been by the national organizations that support same-sex marriage to attack this on a state-by-state basis," said Brian Raum, who is helping to defend Proposition 8. "The impact of those cases, obviously, was limited to their respective states. But the potential impact in this case goes beyond the state of California." LISA LEFF (AP)

KEVORK DJANSEZIAN/GETTY IMAGES

Supporters of same-sex marriage rally in Los Angeles last year after the California Supreme Court upheld Proposition 8.

THE TRIAL'S MAJOR PLAYERS

Former U.S. Solicitor General Theodore Olson, a conservative Republican who represented George W. Bush in Bush v. Gore, the Supreme Court case following the 2000 presidential election, is one of the two lead attorneys for the plaintiff challenging Proposition 8.

Joining Olson is famed trial lawyer David Boies, a Democrat, who was on Al Gore's side in the Bush v. Gore case. "This team really sends a message that this isn't a question of anything to do with political ideology," Boies told The Washington Post.

U.S. District Court Chief Judge Vaughn Walker, a Republican named to the bench in 1989 by then-President George H.W. Bush, will preside. Known as an independent thinker, he fast-tracked the case because of the high-stakes nature of the results.

Film director Rob Reiner is the biggest name on the board of The American Foundation for Equal Rights, a group bankrolled by Hollywood elite that was founded to oppose Proposition 8 by Chad Griffin, a former member of President Bill Clinton's communications team.

The Plaintiff

Kristin Perry, 45, is the title plaintiff in the case registered on legal dockets as Perry v. Schwarzenegger. She and her lesbian partner of 10 years, Sandra Stier, 47, were married in San Francisco in 2004 and were among the 4,000 couples whose unions were invalidated by the state Supreme Court six months later.

The Defendants

Charles Cooper, a veteran trial lawyer who worked for the U.S. Justice Department under Republican President Ronald Reagan in the 1980s, will lead the defense's team. Of note is that California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is named as a defendant because of his position in the state government, but he opposes the gay marriage ban.

Technology

YouTube Debate

Noting the significance of the case, U.S. District Court Chief Judge Vaughn Walker has taken the rare step of allowing videotaping of the proceedings so the public can watch the trial on YouTube. However, the lawyers defending Proposition 8 urged the U.S. Supreme Court to block the video coverage, the Los Angeles Times reported. The trial "has the potential to become a media circus," noted attorney Charles Cooper. (EXPRESS)

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Personal Finance

Contract Ties That Bind

Opting out of signed agreements can be a tough act to pull off

Money Management

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One number to look for in a contract: the cost of getting out.

Early termination fees for cable service, cell phone plans and other contracts generally offer a benefit — they're escape doors from commitments for greater amounts.

Still, you may have assumed the penalty would be lighter, or that you could walk away. In mapping out your finances for 2010, you may also regret locking into a gym membership or other service.

A contract is nevertheless binding, whether you find a better deal or lose your job. So, before you sign on the dotted line, know what it costs to nix the deal. If you're already locked in, there may be ways to wiggle out.

How Much to Expect

You're more likely to encounter early termination fees when there's a sale or promotion, such as a reduced rate on service. The fees are how companies claw back any discounts that were given.

Early termination fees are usually prorated too, meaning they decline over time. For cable service with Time Warner, for example, the termination fees for getting out of a price-locked deal start dropping after three months.

When You Can Avoid Fees

There may be a grace period in your contract that lets you avoid the early termination fee. If so, know when it ends so you can cancel in time if needed. Some providers, including Sprint and Verizon, give you 30 days to cancel a plan. Otherwise, Verizon's termination fee can be as high as $350 if you have a smartphone.

Finally, it can't hurt to request a waiver or accommodation if you're left with no alternatives. Most businesses will negotiate if you remain a customer.

When There's No Opt Out

If a contract doesn't include a clause on early terminations, it generally means the company can demand the amount you would pay over the remainder of the contract.

That is usually the case with car leases. However, you can often transfer your lease to someone else through sites such as Tradealease.com or Leasetrader.com. CANDICE CHOI (AP)

DISCUSSIONS

Budgeting

A week into the new year, you may find keeping your resolve more expensive than you expected. Here are some tips on sticking to popular resolutions without slimming down your bank account.

Getting fit. Losing weight and developing a workout routine doesn't require spending a lot or even joining a gym for $50 per month or more. Instead, get a pair of comfortable shoes and start walking — around your neighborhood, at a local track or even in a mall. For some people, just adding new songs to a workout mix, or buying a gadget like a heart rate monitor, can jump-start a commitment to fitness. If you prefer a class, try community centers, where prices tend to be lower than at gyms and specialty clubs.

Getting organized. Maybe your vision of 2010 involves seeing the floor in your closet again or not spending hours looking for your keys. Don't hire a professional or buy storage systems. With a little planning, you can declutter your house on your own. The key is to not tackle the whole house at once. Try to do one room each month.

Getting your records in order. To organize your finances and cut paper clutter, consider buying a scanner ($50 and up) to keep bills on your hard drive instead of on paper. If you want to store paper copies, get an accordion folder and be diligent about filing them, along with more important documents, such as birth certificates.

Getting your budget in motion. To get a handle on your spending, try tracking it for a week with the free form that is offered on Realsimple.com. It lets you list everything you buy — from lattes to groceries — and set a priority for each item to help find things you can cut from your spending. EMILY FREDRIX (AP)

Local

Ex-Howard President Dies at 77

Washington

James E. Cheek, who served as Howard University's president for 20 years and oversaw major expansions at the school, has died. He was 77.

University spokesman Ron Harris said Cheek died Friday at a hospital in Greensboro, N.C.

Cheek

Cheek presided over the historically black Howard University from 1968 to 1989. During that time, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, in 1983.

During Cheek's tenure, the university's enrollment increased by 6,000 students, and its budget soared from $43 million to $417 million. The school founded the nation's first black-owned public television station, created WHUR radio, established a business school and built Howard University Hospital. Cheek also expanded Howard's divinity and law schools. **(AP)**

Metro's Annual No-Pants Dance

Yearly prank pulled again; still no rhyme or reason for hijinks

Washington

It was a quiet Sunday in Washington, and Antonia Chambers was on the Metro headed to buy pajamas at Macy's when all these people got on wearing no pants.

David Del Bianco, 18, of Columbia, Md., stood beside her in his blue boxers with the Super Mario Bros. logo. His sister, Gabrielle, 21, sat behind her wearing long striped green socks and black panties. All through the car — in fact, through much of the system — there were pantless people, in boy shorts, briefs and other unmentionables.

DAYNA SMITH/TWP

Participants in the No Pants Metro Ride elicit a glance at L'Enfant Plaza Sunday.

For better or worse, this was the annual no-pants day on the Metro. And Chambers, 57, of Suitland — who was fully bundled in coat, cap and scarf — thought it was pretty funny.

So did others, especially the several hundred who assembled in frigid weather near L'Enfant Plaza to participate.

There was at least one lawyer, one patent attorney, several computer geeks and the odd musician.

Why? "There's not really any point or any cause," said Bruce Witzenburg, 26, a stand-up comic and one of the organizers. "We're just trying to put smiles on some people's faces." **MICHAEL E. RUANE (THE WASHINGTON POST)**

Panda Artificially Inseminated at National Zoo

Washington

Experts at the National Zoo artificially inseminated the zoo's female giant panda Saturday and Sunday after she went into heat over the weekend, the zoo said.

Mei Xiang underwent the insemination after she and the zoo's male giant panda, Tian Tian, tried but failed to mate successfully.

AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Scientists and veterinarians artificially inseminate Mei Xiang, a giant panda.

Panda reproduction in captivity is complex and difficult, and zoo scientists have only about 48 hours once a year, when the female is in heat, to try to achieve a pregnancy.

A giant panda cub this year would be special because the zoo is currently facing the potential loss of all three of its giant pandas by next year. **MICHAEL E. RUANE (TWP)**

The Lotteries

Sunday, Jan. 10

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Mid-day DC 4	1-6-5-8
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Mid-day Pick 3	1-1-7
Mid-day Pick 4	9-5-6-5

Virginia

Mid-day Pick 3	2-6-8
Mid-day Pick 4	2-4-1-6
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Sports

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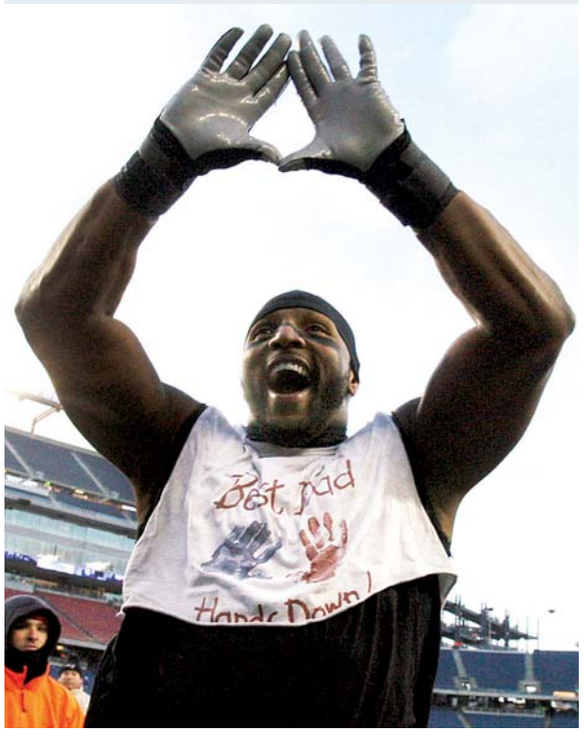

New England Patriots QB Tom Brady takes a hit from the Baltimore Ravens' Terrell Suggs. After a 33-14 win, Ray Lewis, right, and the Ravens were already worrying about Peyton Manning's Indianapolis Colts.

Ravens Run Over Patriots

Baltimore dominates from the first play on to ensure trip to Indy

33 | 14

Ravens	24	0	3	6	33
Patriots	0	7	7	0	14

From the very first play, Ray Rice and the running Ravens made the team of the last decade look old, overmatched and, oddly, inept.

Rice ran 83 yards for a touchdown with frigid fans still settling into their seats, Tom Brady had three of his four turnovers in the first quarter and Baltimore knocked off New England 33-14 on Sunday in the AFC playoffs.

"Their era is not over; they know how to win," Rice said, "but for the Ravens, to beat the New England Patriots set a precedent. We'll always remember this win."

The Ravens (10-7) were only slight underdogs to the team that won three Super Bowls from 2002 through 2005. That myth faded as quickly as Baltimore charged to a 14-0 lead in the first five minutes.

"One thing we said as an offense is we want to start games fast," Rice said. "I wanted to be the guy today to start fast, whether it was a 5-yard run or an 83-yard run. I wanted to be the guy to say this will be a fast-tempo game. We want the other team to play catch-up to us."

Now, if they beat Indianapolis and Peyton Manning next Saturday night, they'll reach the AFC championship game for the second-straight year as a wild-card team.

"We'll enjoy it," safety Ed Reed said, "and I know what's next. No. 18 is coming. I know it, and he knows we are coming."

Not even Brady, the NFL Comeback Player of the Year, could overcome his mistakes and the absence of the league's leading receiver, Wes Welker.

Brady was 23 of 42 for 154 yards, two touchdowns passing and three interceptions.

But it was hardly a one-man collapse.

Randy Moss, covered tightly by Domonique Foxworth, caught only five passes for 48 yards.

The Patriots' defense was so porous, allowing 234 yards rushing, that Joe Flacco only had to throw 10 passes, completing four for 34 yards. Rice rushed 159 yards for a team that averaged 182.6 on the ground in its previous five games.

"All of us that participated in the game are accountable for our performance," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said, "and I don't think anybody felt very good about it: players, coaches, anybody."

The Patriots (10-7) tried to rev up the crowd by sending the injured Welker onto the field on crutches for the opening coin toss. It didn't work. Six minutes into the game the crowd was booing the team that hadn't lost at home all season.

"I'd have been booing us, too, the way we played," Brady said. "Playing the way we played today, we weren't going to beat anybody."

HOWARD ULMAN (AP)

Playoff Preview

NFL fans can only hope that the lack of drama during this weekend's postseason games will mean better games next weekend.

- With their big victory over the New England Patriots, the Baltimore Ravens earned a trip to Indianapolis to face the 14-2 Colts.
- The New York Jets, who won on the road in Cincinnati, will visit the San Diego Chargers.
- On the NFC front, the Dallas Cowboys will take on the Minnesota Vikings after blowing out the Philadelphia Eagles for a second-straight week.
- The Cardinals-Packers game ended after deadline. The winner will face the New Orleans Saints.

	RUSHING YARDS	PASSING YARDS	COMPLETIONS/ ATTEMPTS	TURN-OVERS	PENALTIES/ YARDS	TIME OF POSSESSION
Ravens	234	34	4/10	2	3/15	32:21
Patriots	64	132	23/42	4	5/41	27:39

Sunday's Stars

Ray Rice set the tone with his 83-yard TD run. The Ravens back ended up with 159 yards.

Julian Edelman did his best Wes Welker impersonation. The Pats WR caught two touchdown passes.

Sports

Hornets Sting Wizards

Washington falls in second home game since Arenas' ouster

The Wizards

Chris Paul scored eight of his 26 points in the final three minutes Sunday to lead the New Orleans Hornets to their sixth-straight win, 115-110 over a Washington Wizards team that has turned its game up a notch since the suspension of Gilbert Arenas.

Peja Stojakovic scored 20 points, and Paul added 14 assists for the Hornets, who have won three straight away from home to improve their record to 5-13 after an abysmal start.

Paul's jumper with 2:54 to play broke a tie at 101 to give the Hornets the lead for good. After a turnover by Washington's Nick Young, James Posey made it a five-point lead with a 3-pointer. New Orleans shot 53 percent and set a season-high in points.

Antawn Jamison tied his season-high with 32 points, and Foye had 23 starting in place of Arenas to set a season-high for the second straight game as the Wizards wasted a 58 percent shooting game by committing 19 turnovers. Three turnovers came in the final three minutes, two by Young and one by Foye.

The last-place Wizards, expected to continue to struggle with Arenas suspended indefinitely by the NBA during a guns-related investigation, nearly pulled off an upset for the second straight game without their three-time All-Star. Washington rallied from 10 points down in the fourth quarter Friday to beat Orlando 104-97 in their first home game without Arenas.

Wizards coach Flip Saunders was concerned about the early afternoon start time, but his team shot 75 percent in the first quarter, making its last eight field goals and 15 of 20 for the period.

The matinee slump hit in the second quarter, when the Wizards committed eight turnovers and allowed a 10-0 New Orleans run. Paul's 3-pointer with three-tenths of a second to play gave the Hornets a 60-49 lead at the half. (AP)

EVAN VUCCI/AP

Mike Miller, left, goes for a steal against the Hornets' Chris Paul in the second quarter.

Gone, Not Forgotten

While the Wizards have removed virtually all traces of Arenas from the Verizon Center, one teammate found a way to get his suspended teammate's nickname visible. DeShawn Stevenson took to the court during pregame warmups with the words "AGENT" and "ZERO" written in red capital letters on tape wrapped around his shins. (AP)

Vols Hand No. 1 Jayhawks First Loss

College Basketball

Scotty Hopson had 17 points and No. 16 Tennessee, with a lineup thinned by suspensions, dismissals and injuries, beat No. 1 Kansas 76-68 on Sunday night.

Kansas' Tyshawn Taylor stole the ball and dished it to Brady Morningstar, who hit a 3-pointer with 1:14 left to cut Tennessee's lead to 71-68.

Skylar McBee, one of three walk-ons who played for Tennessee, answered with his own 3 as the shot clock expired.

Sherron Collins, who bailed the Jayhawks (14-1) out of a near loss to Cornell on Wednesday, couldn't help this time, missing three shots before time expired.

The loss leaves No. 2 Texas and No. 3 Kentucky as the only unbeatens in Division I. (AP)

TV Lineup

TERPS WOMEN HOOPS (7:30 P.M., ESPN2) Maryland, losers of three of its four road games this year, visits Virginia.

MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS (7 P.M., 9 P.M., ESPN2) Villanova and Louisville go at it in a Big East battle, followed by Oklahoma hosting Oklahoma State.

NHL (8 P.M., VERSUS) The Penguins visit the Minnesota Wild.

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CHANGE ARTIST E6

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express Continuing Education and Career Advancement Guide www.expressnightout.com

Tricks of the Spice Trade

Hot sauce wizard Brennan Proctor's dreams are bottled up in Uncle Brutha

Entrepreneur

The day someone introduced Brennan Proctor as "the pepper-sauce guy," he started to see his culinary tinkering in a different light.

Proctor, a fourth-generation D.C. native, was working in Los Angeles in late 2001 as a sound technician on music videos. He had always been drawn to music — growing up, he became proficient in the violin, trombone, tuba and electric bass — and in L.A., he was working with some of the industry's biggest names, such as Jay-Z and Janet Jackson.

But on the back burner, his home-brewed hot sauce had also begun to bubble. What started as an initial flirtation with flavors to dress a batch of potluck wings in the late 1980s had sparked years of playing with fire: tasting chiles and spices and various combinations of them, striving for a sauce that carefully calibrated the balance of heat and flavor.

By the time he was living in

CONTINUED ON E2

KRIS TRIPPLAAR

Brennan Proctor left his job as a sound technician in L.A. to pursue a tastier career as a condiment creator. The result is the District's own Uncle Brutha brand hot sauce.

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Sell the Heat

CONTINUED FROM E1

L.A., the responses were only encouraging. After he brought the wings to a co-worker's baby shower, Proctor's boss had the sauce bottled and given to clients for Christmas. A batch of the stuff, he says, became almost a prerequisite for showing up at parties — and work.

"Got a lot of doors shut in my face. It was discouraging at first because it was hard to crack that nut."

"It's not too often that a soundman is coming on set and executive producers are calling out your first name: 'Hey, it's Brennan. Where's your sauce?'"

Still, he was taken aback when a producer introduced him to someone on the street as "the pepper-sauce guy." Shortly after, budgets for music videos began to slide, Proctor says, and the lapses between his workdays were widening. Suddenly, a future in condiment cuisine seemed not so far-fetched.

In 2003, he sold his house in L.A. and returned to the District with the seed money to launch Uncle Brutha's brand hot sauce. (Proctor and his sister have always referred to each other as "brother" and "sister," so when she had a baby, Proctor declared, "I guess now I'm Uncle Brutha.")

Today, Uncle Brutha's No. 9 sauce (a green combo of serrano chiles, garlic, ginger, cilantro and onion) and No. 10 (a red mélange of four chiles and garlic) can be found in metro-area grocery stores and retail shops, and in restaurant kitchens and on their tables. Together, they've claimed 31 awards so far. But success has been a seesaw, especially recently.

Despite no formal cooking education, Proctor, 46, has always felt at home in the kitchen — as a kid, he chose to read a cookbook for a school reading program. And

KRIS TRIPPLAAR

A big part of the marketing plan or Proctor, right, is to simply pitch his sauces to store and restaurant owners face-to-face, hoping they'll want to serve it or put it on shelves.

although he had completed a certificate program in music-industry business from University of California, Los Angeles, little if any of that know-how was transferable to running a small food business.

To compensate, he sought consultations and attended seminars through Small Business Development Center Networks in the District (Dcsbdc.org) and Maryland (Mdsbdc.umd.edu); he networked with other business owners; and he pounded the pavement, pitching his wares to stores and restaurants.

"Got a lot of doors shut in my face, too. It was a little discouraging at first," he says, "because it was hard to crack that nut."

Proctor was gently rebuffed in his first attempt with Whole Foods, but he got his sauces onto the shelves at the Takoma Park Silver Spring Co-op and won a spot among the street vendors at Eastern Market.

No. 10, left, is a blend of four chiles, and No. 9 is a green sauce made with serranos.

With those successes in hand, he made another pitch to Whole Foods, which in 2005 approved the brand to be sold in local stores and, later, stores across the mid-Atlantic region, he says. The next year, Proctor moved from the street market to a nearby storefront, a spice mecca he called Uncle Brutha's Gourmet Foods and Hot Sauce Emporium.

But the spring of 2007 brought the three-alarm blaze at Eastern Market. A drop in foot traffic from people outside the neighborhood, he says, drove down his sales by at least one-third. And "there's only so much hot sauce people in the immediate area can buy on a weekly, a monthly basis," he says.

When his lease ran out in summer 2008, Proctor had to relocate again, this time to his home in Northwest D.C., where he now runs the business full time.

"It's been tough," he says. "I don't know how many people don't

have cable [TV] these days, but Uncle Brutha doesn't."

"I invested everything into this," he says. "I wasn't just going to walk away from it."

The operation now is something of a one-man show, with help from his family and especially his 74-year-old mother. ("That's my right-hand man," he says.) For Proctor, the days are a flurry of answering phones and e-mails, dropping off shipments of sauce, networking — which recently led to pro-bono technical help with his Web site — and stirring up new business while making sure his capacity to handle it grows at the same pace.

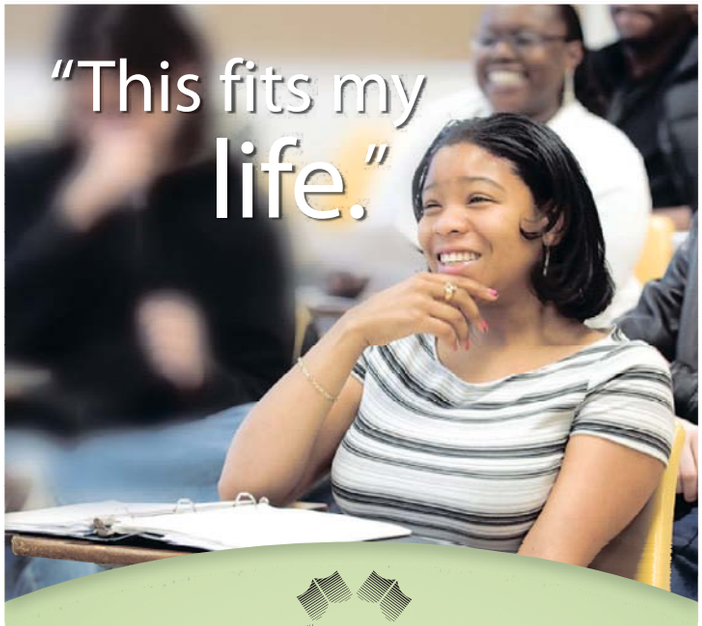
When asked how many hours a week he works, Proctor answers: "Most of 'em."

But Proctor thinks that the scales are once again tipping in his favor. He successfully lobbied Giant Food, and now, he says, roughly two dozen Giant stores in the area have been approved to carry his brand.

And there are future plans on the drawing board: He's keeping a wishful eye out for commercial real estate to re-establish his store and is also exploring ideas for moving the production and bottling of the sauces to the D.C. area. (Currently, a plant in Pennsylvania handles that so Proctor can avoid the costs of building and maintaining his own commercial-grade kitchen.)

If he's able to do all that and continue to grow, his ultimate hope is that Uncle Brutha's will create a few jobs, perhaps make use of local produce, and benefit the community.

And even if that doesn't happen, Uncle Brutha assures us that "it's been worth it." DANNY FREEDMAN



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Ms. Sew and Sew

➜ **NAME:** Marie Connolly, 39
➜ **JOB:** Owner of Stitch DC
➜ **SALARY:** About $30,000
➜ **EDUCATION:** Bachelor's in international studies, American University
➜ **WHAT SHE DOES:** Owning the only knitting-supply shop in the District, Connolly has created a haven for all kinds of needle and thread types who walk through the door of her Eastern Market store. Whether you're a sewing, knitting or crocheting apprentice or ace, she can help. "The one thing we really push is support," she says. "We sell the dream. I write patterns for people by calculating the number of stitches. I'm the person you can come in and ask any question." She's fostered her community with extended store hours every Wednesday night for customers to hang out. "People come in with their projects, and we chat about everything from politics to the latest gossip on TMZ." She also handpicks all of the fabric and yarn the store sells; teaches and manages the roster of classes; and supervises the shop's handful of part-time employees/enthusiastic stitchers. Connolly also reaches out to charities — Stitch DC recently hosted the "Knit Your Bit" event, at which customers made quilts and scarves for veterans.
➜ **WOULD YOU WANT THIS JOB?** For any fabric lover, it's a given. "I get to play with cashmere whenever I want!" Connolly says. But it's the artistic nature of the job that is the main draw: "I get to be creative. I get to sit around and think about sewing and knitting on a daily basis." Though being the face of a small business isn't always easy: "My customers are always lovely, but there are days where you'd like to not be public. You don't get those days off."

REGAN KIREILIS

Marie Connolly's secret to success is a personal passion for what she's selling.

➜ **HOW SHE GOT THIS JOB:** Simply put, her daughter needed some new clothes. "I started knitting for my daughter when she was 3, and it turned into a winter of knitting continuously." Connolly was working in real estate at the time and caught wind of a leasing property from a colleague. "I thought, 'Do I want a knitting store?' I'm a strong believer in selling what you love," she says. She went through all of the stitching magazines she'd collected over the years, chose five yarn lines she loved and dove right into launching a store. Doors opened to eager stitchers in June 2004, thanks to money Connolly and her husband invested from their careers in real estate.
➜ **HOW YOU CAN GET THIS JOB:** Simply being the head of a stitching store means people will rely on your expertise, so break out your needles, test your own designs and tap into the local knitting community. "Ravelry.com is the Facebook for knitters," Connolly says. If you want to open a business, the most important decision you have to make is what kind of yarn — the backbone of the stitching industry — you'd like to sell: "I looked at a lot of yarn and easily spent over $75,000 on yarn and needles to open." One thing to keep in mind is that stitching isn't necessarily a cash cow: "Know that you're never going to make a million dollars. Do it because you love it." The rest should be seamless.

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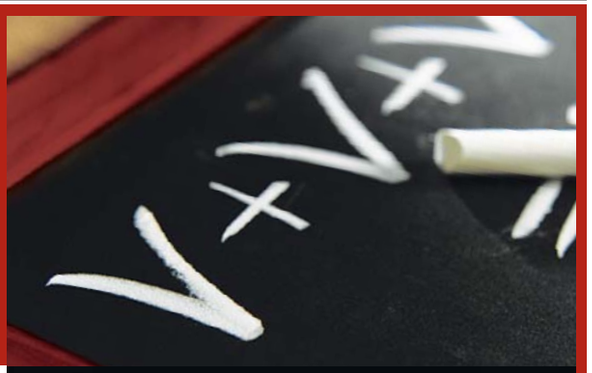

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Shaping the Story

Documentary films require more than aiming a camera

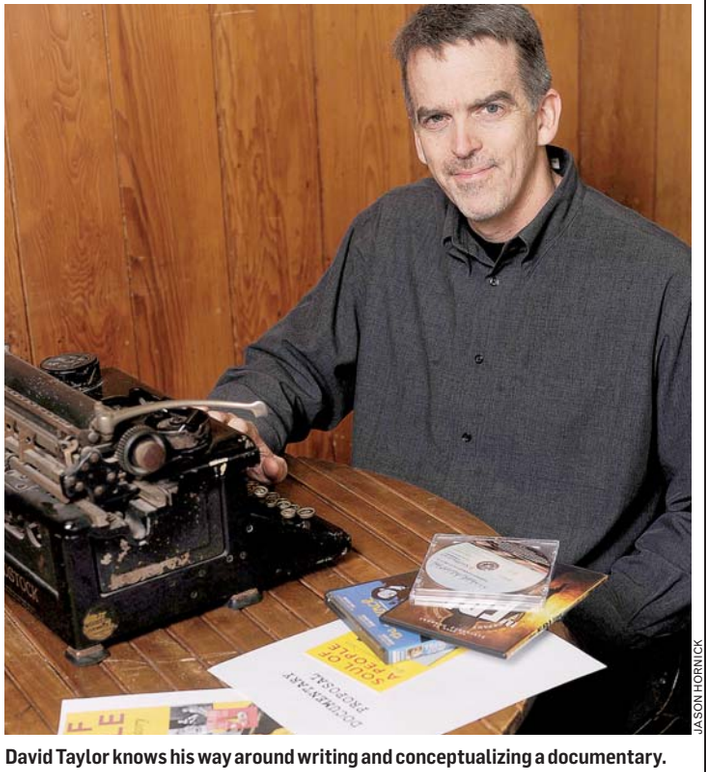
Storytelling

Ever watch a Michael Moore or Ken Burns piece and think, "I could do that!" Before you invest in a video camera and film-editing software, remember that there's more to documentary filmmaking than pointing and shooting.

Namely, there's the story. And that's the focus of a new class at the Writer's Center called "Starting a Documentary Film Project."

"People often think that documentary films come about by being at the right place with a camera at the right time, but I think the workshop helps dispel the notion of that," says David Taylor, a writer and documentary filmmaker whose history and science work has appeared on the Discovery Channel, the Smithsonian Channel and National Geographic's Web site. "There's thinking to do beforehand and a lot of creativity and work in the editing process afterward, too. Strengthening your writing gives you a way to shape a documentary that doesn't always get highlighted."

Crash Course



JASON HORNICK

David Taylor knows his way around writing and conceptualizing a documentary.

The Basics

The eight-session class is open to 15 students ready to learn how to take storytelling techniques such as character development, plot twists, and dramatic or comic tension, and adapt them for film.

"It is writing for a visual medium, so it uses a different part of your brain in order not to describe the whole scene, but to write just the essence of what you need instead. To let the picture do its work and your writing complement that, not duplicate the picture," says Taylor.

Participants should bring an idea they want to develop and be willing to share their drafts for feedback from Taylor and other students.

To give students a sense of what works — and what doesn't — Taylor will show segments of documentaries and present case studies of successful filmmakers. He'll also use writing exercises and assignments such as researching case studies of editors' choices in storytelling to jump-start creativity, and explain how to develop a proposal to score funding for a project.

What You'll Learn

Taylor hopes students leave the class knowing how to focus ideas, structure stories, conduct interviews, write narration and feel comfortable with editing their writing. He will also cover business basics such as marketing and pitching.

"The idea is that you come with an idea to develop and end up with a proposal, or what's called a visual treatment — a five- to 10-page synopsis of how you would visually tell that story in a film," he says.

"There's a lot of interest in nonfiction films now because they are cheaper to make with DV cameras and cheaper editing software," Taylor adds. But "the basic skills of storytelling tend to get overlooked in the technical discussions of film formats and lighting and sound production. This workshop complements those courses on those technical elements with a look at how those storytelling tools come into play."

What's the Deal?

"Starting a Documentary Film Project" runs weekly from Jan. 20 to March 10 from 7:30 to 10 p.m. at **THE WRITER'S CENTER** (4508 Walsh St., Bethesda). The class costs $285 for center members and $345 for non-members. Register at Writer.org or call 301-654-8664.

STEPHANIE KANOWITZ

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JASON HORNICK

Dave Balderson was a sales executive with a healthy salary but was looking for something more satisfying. When he saw a local inn for sale, he took a chance and bought it.

Hospitality Is Their Business

A couple find room for growth at their Ellicott City inn

Bed and Breakfast

Dave Balderson lived a cushy life. As a sales executive with McCormick & Co., the Baltimore spice maker, the 45-year-old had a fat paycheck, a company car and eligibility for retirement in 10 years. He and his wife, Susan, began thinking of what might come next.

Though they'd never stayed at a bed and breakfast — Dave Balderson traveled more than 75 percent of the time — innkeeping sounded appealing. Looking ahead in 1996, the Ellicott City couple read half a dozen how-to books, started taking scouting trips, quizzed innkeepers about the work and the lifestyle, and drafted a business plan.

Susan Balderson, who earned less as a CPA, would run the future business. Dave Balderson would keep bringing in the bucks for a few years. Eventually, they'd look for an inn in a tourist-y area that was close to major cities, colleges and maybe a military installation, with arts venues and restaurants nearby.

But two years into the 10-year plan, Dave Balderson took a rush-hour detour and passed a 225-year-old inn for sale right in Ellicott City. He swooned. After saying, "Are you crazy?" Susan Balderson swooned, too. A week later, they agreed to buy a lovely but neglected house on two acres. It was everything they wanted, though a bit small at four guest rooms.

The Baldersons spent a year turning the Wayside Inn into the idyllic space it is now.

Change Artists

Time for speeded-up schooling. Before their closing in fall 1998, the two booked a $295 course with Bushnell & Bushnell Innkeeping Services (Bushnellandbushnell.com; 410-524-6921) on everything from industry trends and business loans to staffing and time management.

"In training, we were the poster children for how not to get into the business," Dave Balderson says with a laugh.

"It's a happy business. People expect to enjoy themselves. ... And they say, 'You have a beautiful home.'"

Scott Bushnell, once a corporate manager, and Marilyn Bushnell, a former human resources manager with a real estate license, owned an inn for nine years before launching their new business. From Ocean City, they advise people on starting a B&B, buying a turnkey operation, enlarging an innkeeping business or getting out of it.

The Bushnells offer mentoring, evaluations, group seminars, financial analyses, business plan development and Web site guidance. About six times a year, they take their intense two-day aspiring-innkeepers workshop, which can be personalized, somewhere in the mid-Atlantic.

"I don't try to talk anyone into or out of this line of work," Scott Bushnell says. One student wrote, "It really opened our eyes to the reality of the B&B industry, the highs and lows, and tested us to see if we were cut out for it."

Like the Bushnells, many innkeepers have a side business as B&B consultants. The Professional Association of Innkeepers International (Innkeeping.org) lists several. Regionally, the Mid-Atlantic Innkeepers Trade Show &

gettingahead

JASON HORNICK

The Wayside Inn is a 225-year-old building located in the heart of Ellicott City, Md.

Conference (Midatlanticinnkeepers.com) is Monday through Wednesday in Hot Springs, Va.; aspiring innkeepers have their day on the 10th. On Feb. 28, Bed and Breakfast Innkeepers of Virginia (Innvirginia.com) hosts an aspiring innkeepers workshop in Charlottesville.

Training guided the Baldersons through a year of renovating, painting, replacing plumbing and asking experienced colleagues about everything from laundry to cash flow. "It certainly reinforced that you need the financial wherewithal to pay the bills for one, two, three years while you grow the business," Dave Balderson says wryly. They cashed out his 401(k) to buy furniture. His business-travel experience led him to fill rooms with what he liked on the road, everything from fresh flowers to chocolates to white-noise machines. Then their air conditioning died — a $10,000 expense with no income yet.

Partway through, the Baldersons decided on one change: Dave Balderson should be the innkeeper. He had more background for hospitality, and she hated to clean bathrooms.

In October 1999, the Wayside Inn reopened. Dave Balderson contracts for gardening, housekeeping, sign making, gutter cleaning, chimney sweeping and more; he has flowers, propane and even massage services delivered. "I'm on a first-name basis with everyone at Safeway," he says, "and the electrician and I talk every two months." He doesn't even mind scrubbing toilets: "Really, everything about this business is a passion."

Susan Balderson, a bankruptcy analyst, does the books, budget and taxes. "Her goal is not to sit across from herself during a debtor's meeting, so I trust her," Dave Balderson says. Teamwork has paid off: During this recession, when hundreds of B&Bs are for sale and more are under water, the Wayside Inn hasn't even lost business.

> **"It opened our eyes to the industry ... and tested us to see if we were cut out for it."**
>
> — **A STUDENT** WHO TOOK A COURSE FROM BUSHNELL & BUSHNELL INNKEEPING SERVICES ON THE INS AND OUTS OF RUNNING A BED-AND-BREAKFAST.

These days, Dave Balderson still leads a cushy life. The renovated inn has six large guest rooms, a two-story wedding/party room, and separate owners' quarters. He now offers others advice, such as assess what you do well (and don't), have a solid business plan, visit many inns, ask questions and get good training.

"It's a happy business," he says. "People expect to enjoy themselves. They aren't stressing. And they always say, 'You have such a beautiful home.'" ELLEN RYAN

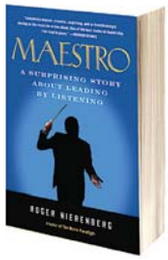
How to Achieve Office Harmony

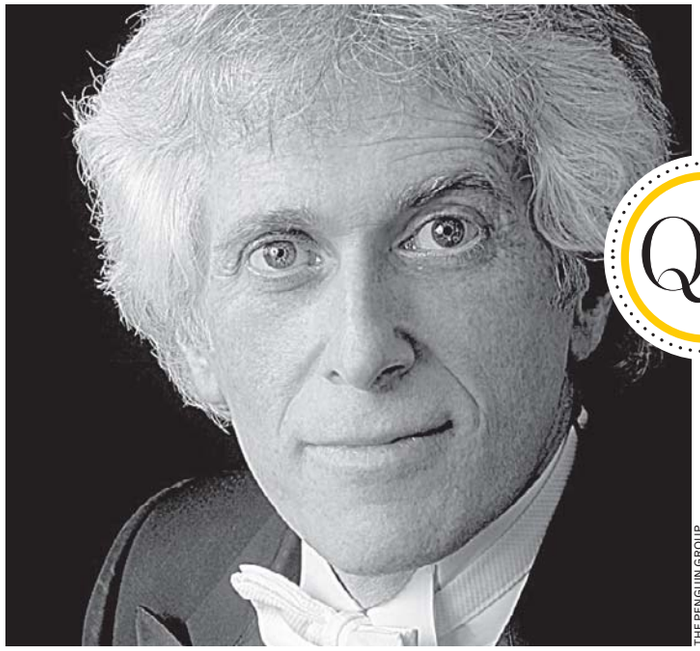
'Maestro' will equip workplace leaders to conduct smoothly

Management

Ever been tempted to stand up in front of a chaotic boardroom — baton in hand — and demand order among dissonant staff members? If so, you have a head start on symphony conductor Roger Nierenberg's method of getting businesses on beat.

As creator of the Music Paradigm, a unique program that uses a symphony as a metaphor for any organization, Nierenberg advocates a harmonious approach to business leadership. His new book, "Maestro: A Surprising Story About Leading by Listening" ($19.95, Portfolio), explains how an effective leader encourages people to achieve their true potential through collaboration.





THE PENGUIN GROUP

Roger Nierenberg's Music Paradigm encourages managers to learn from listening.

Q+A

How is a symphony an apt metaphor for an organization or company?

Things happen in an orchestra very quickly. In most organizations, the speed by which behavior turns into results is very slow. An orchestra is a fantastic laboratory for modeling one behavior after another and seeing that behaviors do have these big impacts. It's very hard to dispute, because it's not theoretical — it's very tangible.

In the Music Paradigm sessions, you invite business execs to sit in on an orchestra rehearsal. What lessons do they learn?

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"It's by listening that you discover exactly where your people's gaps are, and you can then fill them in."

that by looking after every detail, your people are going to execute better, by tracking the way your directions are carried out. When I model that kind of conducting behavior, then give musicians the opportunity to voice what's going on, you hear how inhibited and undervalued it makes them feel. They feel their professionalism is not being appreciated; the net effect is for them to turn off from the leadership. That happens in all kinds of organizations.

Why is it a bad idea for leaders to micromanage?

In real life, it's sometimes hard to see. But with the orchestra, it's actually crystal clear in the sound, which becomes mechanical, obedient — devoid of life, imagination and creativity. The musicians then are just doing what they're asked to do, but they're not adding all the talent they have to offer.

What other lessons can business professionals learn from a symphony?

Let's say you have an organization where there are certain processes and standards that need to be adhered to, but different locations have their own versions. From all offices, they're carrying out the function perfectly; what they don't understand is the cumulative effect is disabling for the organization. In an orchestra, if you allowed different parts to have slightly different standards of pitch, each individual section sounds fine on their own. But altogether it sounds like a high school orchestra. The problem is not at the individual desk or chair, but this organization-wide adherence to standards is the thing the customer is going to experience. It's a very powerful and palpable illustration.

Why do people have such a hard time listening to each other?

Listening is a profound skill. Musicians are taught from very early to listen to the combined sound with somebody else, and to start adjusting in such a way that when the two sounds are together they're in tune and they match. Most people don't understand that in a discussion, that same kind of adjusting and valuing the combined effect of the communication is actually more important than just expressing your ideas.

How is "learning by listening" crucial to business success?

It's by listening that you discover exactly where your people's gaps are, and you can then fill them in. It's the leader's job to narrow that gap. KATIE KNOROVSKY

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KRIS TRIPPLAAR

Rebecca Chanin is the senior creative director of Wisechoice.com, an Alexandria-based company that helps clients find schools based on an exhaustive personality test.

Online Matchmakers

A slew of Web sites help students find that special school

Academics

Arlington resident Debbie Kaplan is thrilled that her oldest daughter is happy with her decision to attend Tufts University. The school suits her daughter's talents and interests as well as they hoped. But finding the perfect college match came at a cost — $3,000 to hire a private college counselor. As Kaplan gears up to navigate the college admissions process yet again with her youngest daughter, she plans to explore alternative options.

A new company headquartered in Alexandria helps students find the right fit via a medium today's youth are intimately familiar with: the Internet. Prospective students fill out an exhaustive profile, including a 238-question personality test, data on academic standing, extracurricular activities and preferences (such as location and price range). Parents can register and input details, too, but they can't override the answers to their teenager's personality test. Then, with the click of a mouse, the site generates a list of 32 best-fit matches, categorized by reach schools (long-shot chance of admission), target schools (pretty good chance of admission) and safety schools (almost certain chance of admission). The compatibility analysis is the result of a two-and-a-half-year effort from a group of psychologists and psychometricians. "It's like eHarmony, except for colleges instead of dating partners," said Ben Britt, the company's senior director of finance.

Wisechoice.com isn't the only online resource where students can explore options. Sites such as Unigo.com and Collegeprowler.com allow candidates to branch out beyond traditional means and use high-tech tools that use interactive social media — for free.

"A big mistake high school students make is looking at U.S. News & World Report and deciding on a school simply because of its rank," said Jordan Goldman, Unigo.com's founder and CEO. "NYU might be ranked highly, but if students can't deal with Northeast winters, they'll transfer." Or worse, the students will "swirl" — a term that describes attending several schools before graduating. According to the National Survey of Student Engagement, nearly 50 percent of college students have taken classes at multiple institutions. Swirling is a phenomenon these sites are hoping to stop.

Among other features, Unigo.com serves as a platform for 50,000 students who are attending colleges and universities across the nation. They post reviews, videos and photos. Watch a "campus tour" of the University of Notre Dame, for example, and you'll find two sophomore guides, one who offers the "official" tour, and her friend who chimes in with the "unofficial" take (official: the lakes are good places to go running when the weather's nice; unofficial: students go to the lakes to hook up). Or get an insider's sneak peak at the best and worst dorms rooms at the University of Texas at Austin (Jester "smells" but Duren has "plenty of closet space"). Unigo.com has an editorial and research team in place to corroborate the reviews and ensure its content accurately represents the school.

> **"A big mistake students make is deciding on a school because of its rank."**
>
> — **JORDAN GOLDMAN,** FOUNDER AND CEO OF UNIGO.COM, A SITE THAT USES SOCIAL MEDIA TO HELP STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT THEIR ACADEMIC OPTIONS

Collegeprowler.com has digitized the contents of its 286 guidebooks, also written by college students. Each one details "off the record" stats, facts and opinions about individual schools. "You get the inside scoop from the students' point of view on traditional and nontraditional topics, ranging from Greek life to the parking situation to the campus drug scene," co-founder Luke Skurman said. So much for sugar-coated brochures from the marketing gurus and administration.

Other not-so-helpful factors applicants might rely on when picking a college include "where their boyfriend/girlfriend plans to attend, or suggestions from guidance counselors who may manage as many as 400 graduates and limit suggestions to the immediate region," said Rebecca Chanin, Wisechoice.com's senior creative director. "Wisechoice.com's personality test will suggest

laid-back schools if you're an introvert, or highly competitive schools if you're the type that thrives with challenge."

Susie Sabaitis, an 18-year-old high school senior in Grand Rapids, Mich., is in the thick of college applications. She knows she wants to study architecture and experimented with Wisechoice.com. She was happy to see the University of Notre Dame, her top choice, popped up as her No. 1 match, but she was also surprised by a number of the site's other suggestions. "I will look into schools I wasn't previously considering, like Miami University (Ohio), North Dakota State University and the University of Detroit Mercy," she said.

Yet it was the Web site's scholarship finder, not the matching system, she found the most useful. With more than 2 million scholarships in its database, Wisechoice.com culls through the user's information to determine which ones the student is eligible for. "It took the guesswork and stress out of searching myself," Sabaitis said. She discovered a music scholarship she didn't know existed — perfect, since she hopes to play saxophone in her college's jazz band.

While Web sites can offer good information, they are only part of the decision-making process. "There's a place for them, but I don't recommend them early on," said Leslie Kent, a private educational consultant based in Fairfax. "I'd rather students form their own opinion first and then review the anecdotal comments on the sites."

And remember: There are other options. Fairfax County Public Schools also has a personality assessment. Its program, "Do What You Are," is a student version of the Myers-Briggs personality inventory. Visiting the campus might be the most helpful factor in deciding where to apply. "Being on campus gives you a completely different feel for the school than researching online," Sabaitis said. Plus, campus visits provide an appropriate time to investigate questions that might have arisen with Internet research.

"You get the inside scoop from students on traditional and nontraditional topics."

The important thing to keep in mind is that while many students feel like their entire life path depends on the school they pick, those who have been through the process agree that while it's important to find a good fit, the daily decisions made in classrooms, library study carrels and dorm rooms played the biggest role. So, enjoy the journey and relax about the final destination. That is, until faced with the next agonizing decision: picking a major. JENNY ROUGH

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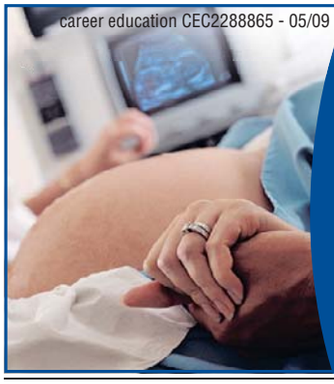

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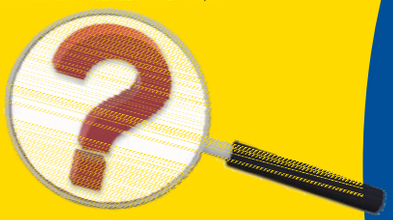

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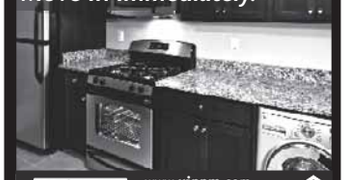

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So Soon?
Fergie and husband Josh Duhamel renew vows after one year 31

Booze Clues

A Current Event

Sometimes you have to let things go. One time I went to Current Lounge (1215 Connecticut Ave. NW) in Dupont Circle for a purported open bar. I left very quickly after discovering that the bathroom stalls had glass doors.

By Fiona Zublin

Later I found out that the doors frost over when locked, but the damage was done and I held a grudge for weeks, nay, months.

But my sushi craving, unabated after last week's column, sent me back to Current one fine (read: cold and miserable) day. And it turns out to be a lovely place — a bit modern and cool for my dive bar-loving soul, but possessed of a wonderful happy hour. Weekdays between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m., $4 sushi and $3 to $5 small plates (go for the wontons) complement a menu of $5 beer, $6 wine and $5 cocktails. You want the spicy tuna roll and the Cucumber Kamikazi. Or if you don't want those, could you pass them down the bar? I'll eat 'em.

Head for the Hill

For something a bit more classic, try Capitol Lounge (229 Pennsylvania Ave. SE). First of all, you can people-watch while you wait for your beers — 10 points for each Hill rat spotted, 60 points for each member of Congress — and second, the happy hour is blissfully straightforward. Every drink is $1 off on weekends from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. The food specials are divided by day: Monday nights bring half-price pizzas, Tuesdays bring 25-cent wings, etc. Fridays veer into the absurd with $10 plates of mussels and discounted Belgian beers.

@ Comments? Give Fiona your feedback: **expressnightout.com/boozeclues**

A Botched Experiment

NBC cancels Leno's prime-time show but wants to move him back to late night

Television

NBC said Sunday that it's waiting to hear whether Jay Leno and "Tonight Show" host Conan O'Brien will accept its new late-night TV plans after the network decided to end the Leno prime-time experiment.

NBC decided to pull the plug after learning some affiliates were considering dropping the show.

NBC Universal Television Entertainment Chairman Jeff Gaspin said "The Jay Leno Show" will end with the Feb. 12 start of the Winter Olympics. NBC wants to begin airing Leno's show at 11:35 p.m. after the Olympics end Feb. 28, but with a half-hour show.

The plan calls for O'Brien to retain his job with "Tonight" but at the later hour of 12:05 a.m., Gaspin said. Jimmy Fallon's "Late Night" would be pushed a half-hour later, too, to 1:05 a.m.

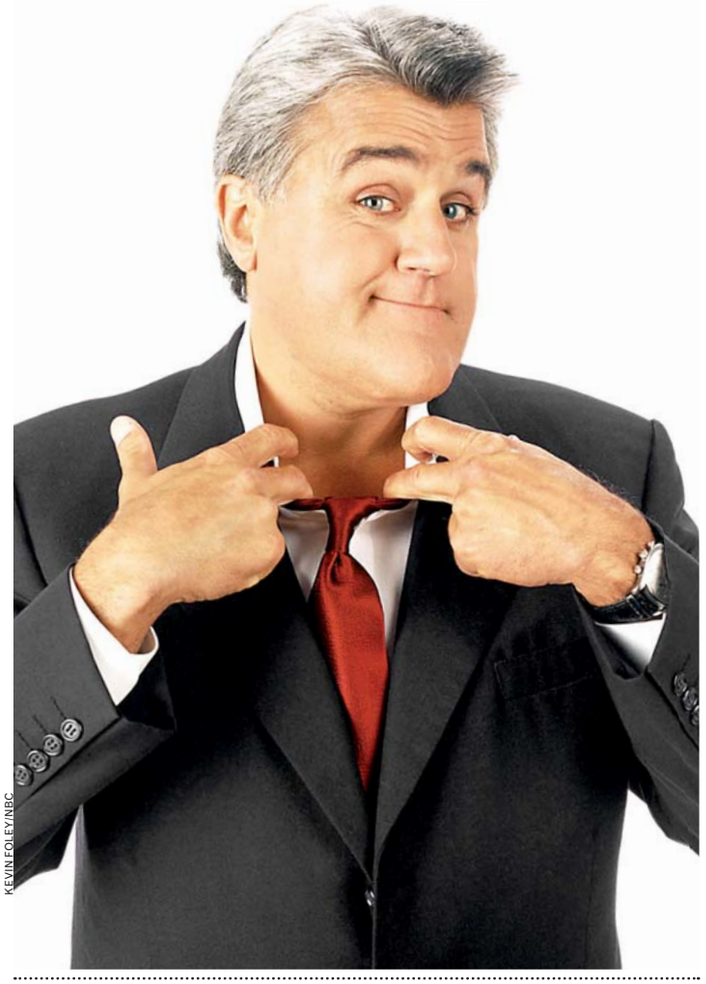
"I hope and expect that before the Olympics begin, we'll have everything set. I can't imagine we won't have everything in place before then," Gaspin told the Television Critics Association.

He said that despite lower ratings for NBC at 10 p.m. compared to last year, the network was making money off the show.

But affiliates were upset that it was leading fewer viewers into their late news programs, costing them significant advertising revenue. Some affiliates told NBC in December they would go public soon about their complaints if a change wasn't made, or even take Leno's show off the air.

Gaspin said about one-third of the affiliates were really hurt by the Leno show. "I asked them how many are they talking about, because I could have lived with one or two. But I got the sense that it was more than one or two," he said.

The decision will leave a gaping hole in NBC's prime-time schedule. A mix of reality programming, "Dateline NBC" and at least two hours of scripted shows will be added to fill in the five hours taken up by Leno's prime-time show each week. **LYNN ELBER (AP)**



KEVIN FOLEY/NBC

"I hope and expect that before the Olympics begin, we'll have everything set."

— **JEFF GASPIN,** CHAIRMAN OF NBC UNIVERSAL TELEVISION ENTERTAINMENT

Free Agent?

An Odd Man, But Not Out

If Conan O'Brien doesn't like his new post-Leno time slot, he might find a warm welcome elsewhere. Fox respects O'Brien's talent and sees him as a good fit, a person at the network said Friday. The anonymous source said Fox was watching to see how the situation played out but that O'Brien remained under contract with NBC. Reps for O'Brien did not comment. ABC, for its part, isn't interested in poaching the host: "With all due respect to Conan, we like the late night hand that we are currently playing." **(AP)**

Weekend Box Office

Avatar	$48.5 M
Sherlock Holmes	$16.6 M
Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel	$16.3 M
Daybreakers	$15 M
It's Complicated	$11 M
Leap Year	$9.2 M
The Blind Side	$7.8 M
Up in the Air	$7.1 M
Youth in Revolt	$7 M
The Princess and the Frog	$4.7 M

Compiled by Fiona Zublin. For more upcoming events, follow the Top Stops blog at Expressnightout.com/topstops.

expressnightout.com lookout

top stops

1 Blue Thinkin' About You

Elvis made the sparkly white jumpsuit manly, he wanted to team up with President Nixon to keep kids off drugs, and he cemented forever the popularity of the peanut butter and banana sandwich. And he would have been 75 years old this year, so the National Portrait Gallery is hosting a new exhibition in his honor. F.Z. ***National Portrait Gallery, 8th and F streets NW; through Aug. 22, free; 202-633-8300, Npg.si.edu. (Gallery Place)***

2 First Lines

It's always nice to see a significant poet in action. Poets Kim Addonizio and Kyle Dargan will join up tonight at the Folger to do readings and talk about the role of poetry in America. Addonizio's work is sardonic and passionate, exposing deeper truths about modern femininity and existential anguish. F.Z. ***Folger Theatre, 201 East Capitol St. SE; 7:30 p.m., $12; 202-544-4600, Folger.edu. (Capitol South)***

3 It Makes the World Go Round

Mike Daisey, monologist, is the kind of guy who takes the time to travel to Vanuatu (It's a South Sea Island. Did you fail third-grade geography?) and comes back to write a play about it. His one-man show, "The Last Cargo Cult," is a brilliant meditation on money and consumerism in modern culture. F.Z. ***Woolly Mammoth Theatre, 641 D St. NW; through Feb. 7, $30; 202-393-3939. (Gallery Place)***

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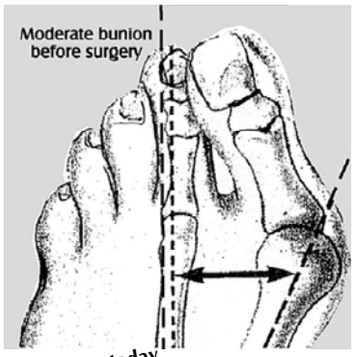

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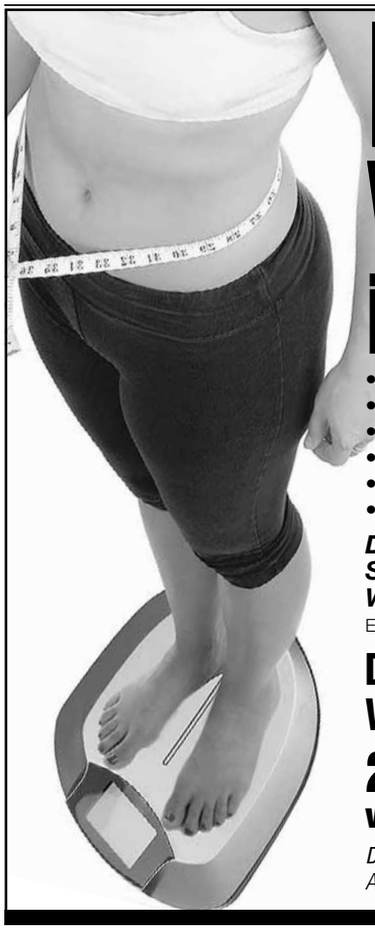

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lookout TV tonight

Regards to Broadway

'How I Met Your Mother' celebrates its 100th episode

Stunts

CBS 8:00

"How I Met Your Mother" celebrates a milestone of sorts, peppering its 100th episode with fantasy scenes, an extended musical number and a tantalizingly close brush with the mystery woman who figures in the show's title.

Like many "special" outings, this one tries a tad too hard and emphasizes the comedy's over-reliance on gimmickry. "How" may not be cutting-edge comedy, but it has a strong cast with chemistry, and they should be allowed to be funny for minutes at a time without some distracting trickery or fantasy montage.

CLIFF LIPSON/CBS

The "How I Met Your Mother Cast" performs the Broadway-esque "Girls vs. Suits."

The musical number "Girls vs. Suits" features Barney (Neil Patrick Harris) singing about his love for fine haberdashery and how he prefers fine Italian styling to the love of any woman.

It also sends up the winking irony of casting the musical theater-loving and Tony Awards-hosting Harris as a predatory ladies man. **KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)**

Best Bets

FAM 8:00

The Secret Life of the American Teenager Amy is attracted to the son of Anne's ex-boyfriend, and Ben is tempted to resume his Italian summer fling. Griffin and Ashley have a sleepover. Ricky wants legal rights to John.

A&E 9:00

Intervention A career, marriage and motherhood haven't been enough to erase Jackie's traumatic memories of her youth. Devastated by the death of her father when she was 13, she also endured merciless teasing from peers for being overweight. After suffering a miscarriage, she turned to alcohol. She now drinks two bottles of wine a day and has lost her marriage and custody of her daughter.

CBS 10:00

CSI: Miami We heard her act was red hot, but this is ridiculous. When a beloved musician literally bursts into flames during a concert, the CSIs expose the dark side of pop-music stardom.

ABC 10:00

Castle While he and Beckett investigate the death of a bridesmaid at a wedding, Castle runs into Kyra, an old flame who is the bride-to-be. Their reunion sparks complications as Kyra wonders whether she is marrying the right guy, and Beckett frets that Castle's emotions may interfere with the case. **(TRIBUNE MEDIA)**

Appreciation

The Great Cooke

"American Masters" celebrates one of the 20th century's music greats with "Sam Cooke: Crossing Over." It profiles the singer who brought the spirit of the black church to popular music, becoming the first black artist to reach No. 1 on both the R&B and pop charts even before Aretha Franklin became the Queen of Soul. Among Cooke's gospel-tinged hits were "Wonderful World," "You Send Me" and "A Change Is Gonna Come." **(TRIBUNE MEDIA)**

B.I.O.

BY INVITATION ONLY: UPCOMING WEDDINGS & UNIONS

Jamie Goodis, Matt Jenkins

Jamie, 29, is an ER doctor. Matt, 29, is an orthopedic surgeon. They live in Alexandria.

■ **The Main Event:** They're saying "I do" June 5 in Sacramento, Calif., in front of 150 guests, followed by an indoor reception with dancing and a smoke machine.

■ **Honeymoon:** It won't happen right away, but they'll "probably do something life-threatening" such as climbing Mount Kilimanjaro or rafting down the Amazon "and not tell our parents until afterwards," Jamie says.

■ **How They Met:** She was a med student, he was an intern, and they met in the hospital. "She was supervised by my good friend, who came up to me one day and said, 'My med student thinks you're hot.'"

■ **First Date:** He invited her over for dinner. It was winter, "and he purposefully didn't turn the heat up so he could get me to cuddle with him."

■ **How He Proposed:** At the top of Mount Shasta, after a two-day climb.

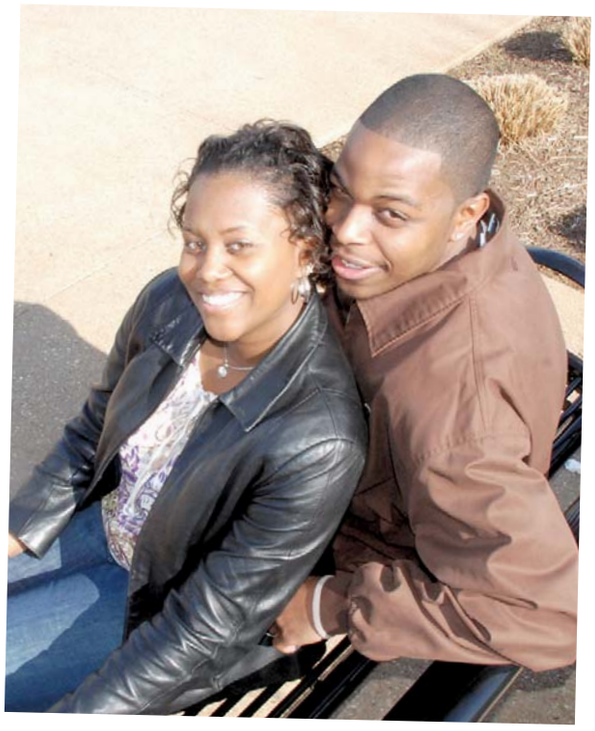
"My fingers were frozen, and I think I was hypoxic at the time," says Jamie.

■ **Stupidest Fight:** "When she refused to realize that PCs are waaaay better than Macs."

■ **Pet Names:** None. "We pretend sometimes that we are too mature for that," says Matt.

■ **Celebrating Heritage:** Jamie's Jewish, "so I still want him to stomp on the glass. I'm also pretty sure I can't prevent the chair dance no matter what I do."

■ **With Infinite Funds:** Matt says: "We'd invite Barack Obama and contribute so much to his re-election fund that he'd feel obliged to show up. And we would totally skydive into the wedding in a tux and dress. And it would be held at the Acropolis."



A Matter of Semantics

He says "stalking"; she says "showing interest." Shelita Hampton is pretty sure Eric Chandler doesn't remember how they met: He just said hello in passing at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. But that was the moment she developed a crush. To Eric's surprise, Shelita started turning up where he was after that. He spent time in the UMd. rec room, and Shelita "would get out of bed if her roommate told her I was in the bowling alley or pool hall, just to find a reason to say hi." After he invited her over for a movie, "I couldn't shake her," Eric jokes. On their two-year anniversary, in Las Vegas, he joked that they should get married in a Vegas chapel. "Where's my ring?" she laughed, and he pulled one out. Shelita, 24, is a recruitment assistant. Eric, 26, is a financial analyst. She lives in D.C.; he lives in East Orange, N.J., (where Shelita will move). They'll wed March 6 in Upper Marlboro, Md.

Justin Ellis, Tricia Merritt

Justin, 23, is a communicator with the U.S. Navy. Tricia, 24, is a student. She lives in D.C.; Justin is stationed in San Diego, Calif., where Tricia will move soon.

■ **The Main Event:** They wed on the beach in Antigua on Jan. 8. It was just them, a pastor and a photographer.

■ **How They Met:** At a party, "where I accused him of not really liking me, because he was talking to another woman." "She accused me of being a player and then proceeded to cuss me out in front of the entire party," Justin says.

■ **First Date:** "We awkwardly reconnected a year after our fight at the Halloween party," Justin says. He pumped her gas and brought flowers; they did dinner and a movie.

■ **How He Proposed:** She had an engagement ring made and wore it to a party. "The morning after, we agreed that there was no reason I shouldn't wear it forever."

■ **Pet Names:** "I'm learning to call him 'J'; ... he recently told me he doesn't like his name, after three years of being together."

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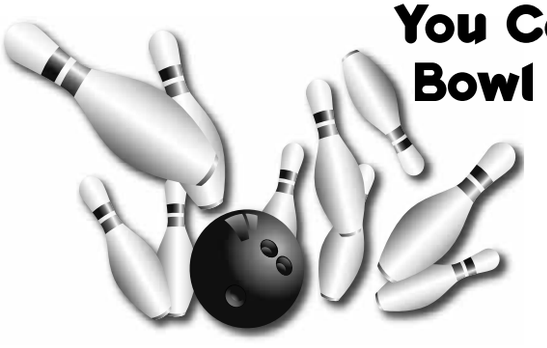

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Poll Center

Today's Question

DO YOU THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA FOR NBC TO MOVE JAY LENO BACK TO LATE NIGHT?

VOTE AT EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM OR TEXT A FOR YES OR B FOR NO TO 98999

Friday's Results

WOULD YOU PAY A HIGHER FARE TO ENSURE METRO WON'T CUT ITS SERVICE?

"I can afford to pay an extra dime or two to get to work each morning. I can't afford to wait longer and be squished in tighter each morning."

COMMENTER KYLE F.

"Let's face it: A fare increase will do nothing for service. Unless Metro decides to tighten up on its employees and their lack of ethics, we won't get any further than where we are now, with or without a fare increase."

COMMENTER SHERRY

SEE HOW YOUR METRO STATION VOTED AT WWW.EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM

Blog Log

"It's not that we don't love the Round Mound of Rebound, it's just that we figured that Lorne [Michaels] would've waited until the [Winter] Olympics were over to fulfill his self-instituted quota of having one sports figure host per season."

— **NYMAG.COM/DAILY/ENTERTAINMENT** ON WHY THE CREATOR OF "SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE" CHOSE FORMER NBA STAR CHARLES BARKLEY TO HOST THE SHOW THIS WEEKEND.

"It is, frankly, incredible that Angola was chosen to host the 2010 African Nations Cup and equally incredible that the competition has not been cancelled in light of this tragedy."

— **CAUGHTOFFSIDE.COM** CAN'T BELIEVE THAT THE TOURNAMENT IS STILL GOING ON AFTER THREE MEMBERS OF TOGO'S NATIONAL SOCCER TEAM WERE KILLED DURING A GUN ATTACK REPORTEDLY BY AN ANGOLAN REBEL FORCE.

"We suppose it's sadly inevitable, in the land that is not quite post-racial America, that we're learning, in retrospect, about how some of the white powers of the nation viewed the ascendant, some say meteoric, political career of President Obama."

— **SWAMPPOLITICS.COM** REACTS TO THE CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING SENATE MAJORITY LEADER HARRY REID, WHO MADE RACIALLY DISPARAGING REMARKS ABOUT OBAMA IN "GAME CHANGE," A NEW BOOK BY TIME MAGAZINE'S MARK HALPERIN AND NEW YORK MAGAZINE'S JOHN HEILEMANN.

"I WANT TO LOVE IT, but what is there to love? It looks like any other generic CGI action caper. The way to go with a show as cheesy and beloved as 'The A-Team' is to follow the lead of 'The Brady Bunch Movie' and turn it into a loving spoof of the cheesiest elements."

— **HOTAIR.COM** WAS DISAPPOINTED AFTER SEEING THE TRAILER FOR "THE A-TEAM."

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Horoscope

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Are you ready to pit your knowledge against that of a close rival? You can bet that the competition will be fierce.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) A certain weakness is likely to slow you down, but not the one you're most afraid of in yourself. You'll be surprised.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Your willingness to explore unknown territory is sure to provide an advantage, but don't take too many risks.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You're after something that is more casual than true love — and a friend is able to give you precisely what you need.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) A recent disappointment may have you doubting yourself — until you remember that any failure or shortfall was not, in the main, your fault.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Your performance is only one of many that will be closely watched and judged. You have what it takes to compete with the best.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You're taking things more personally than advised at this time. You'll want to put your feelings aside while addressing key issues.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You're willing to laugh at things that others don't think are funny — and yet this is one way that you can get what you want.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) The progress you've been making of late is likely to be slowed temporarily — until you address an issue that has slowed others down.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You won't be able to separate what you're doing from what others are doing. Such a connection can do you good, ultimately.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Confusion is likely to result from any attempt to bend or break the rules, though a little creativity can save the day for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You may be rewarded in a manner that takes you very much by surprise. The tangible is less important than the intangible.

PostPoints DAILY CODE IN

Scrabble Grams

PAR SCORE 145-155, BEST SCORE 203

E1	I1	U1	K5	L1	S1	P3	Double Word Score	RACK 1
E1	U1	T1	K5	L1	S1	M3		RACK 2
E1	I1	O1	M3	K5	S1	R1	3rd Letter Triple	RACK 3
E1	O1	O1	M3	R1	G2	L1		RACK 4

Friday's Solution

B3	E1	G2	O1	N1	I1	A1	RACK 1 =	70
L1	E1	G2	I1	B3	L1	E1	RACK 2 =	60
M3	E1	R1	C3	E1	R1		RACK 3 =	10
R1	E1	B3	U1	I1	L1	D2	RACK 4 =	66
PAR SCORE 145-155							TOTAL	206

FOUR RACK TOTAL

Make a 2-7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get a 50-point bonus. Blank tiles used as any letter have no point value. Scrabble is a trademark of Hasbro in the U.S. and Canada.

Sudoku

DIFFICULT

		6	2			4		
2	9	4		7				
	5		8					
		5					4	
4	3	1				8	5	6
	2					9		
					4		1	
				1		3	2	8
		8			6	7		

Friday's Solution

2	4	6	1	9	3	7	8	5
3	1	9	7	5	8	4	6	2
8	5	7	4	6	2	9	3	1
9	7	2	5	4	6	3	1	8
6	8	1	3	7	9	2	5	4
4	3	5	2	8	1	6	7	9
5	9	3	8	2	7	1	4	6
7	6	8	9	1	4	5	2	3
1	2	4	6	3	5	8	9	7

Need more Sudoku? Find another puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday.

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Comics

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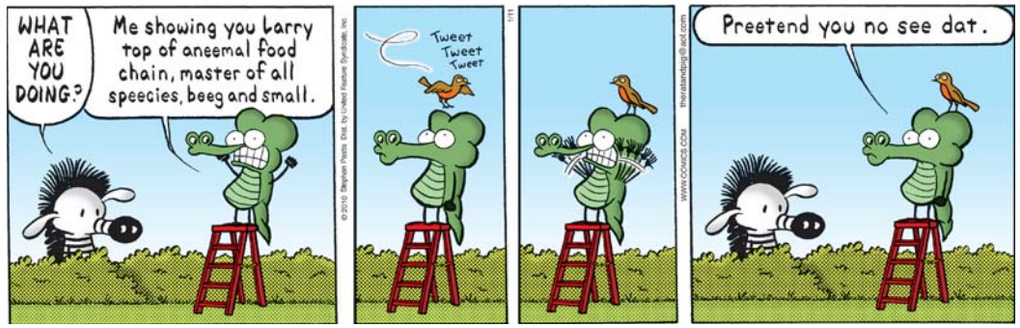
POOCH CAFE | PAUL GILLIGAN

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE | STEPHAN PASTIS



Forecast

36 | 24

Today: Times of clouds and sun today. A snow shower tonight.

36 | 23

Tomorrow: Partly sunny and breezy tomorrow. Clear tomorrow night.

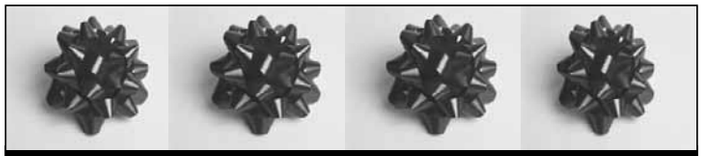
Looking Ahead

WED	THU	FRI
44 | 30	50 | 32	46 | 30

Sun and Moon
Sunrise today: 7:26 a.m.
Sunset today: 5:06 p.m.
Moonrise today: 4:37 a.m.
Moonset today: 1:56 p.m.

Almanac
Normal high: 42
Record high: 70
Normal low: 27
Record low: -3

FORECAST BY ACCUWEATHER.COM ©2009



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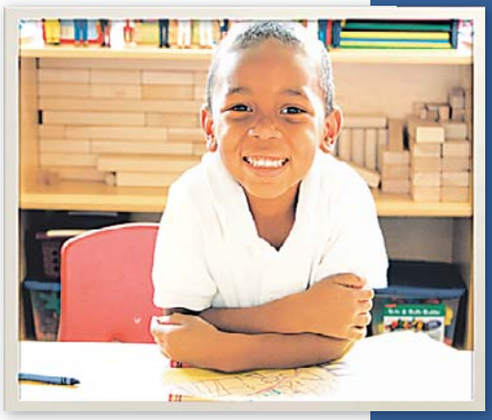
What will I be when I grow up...



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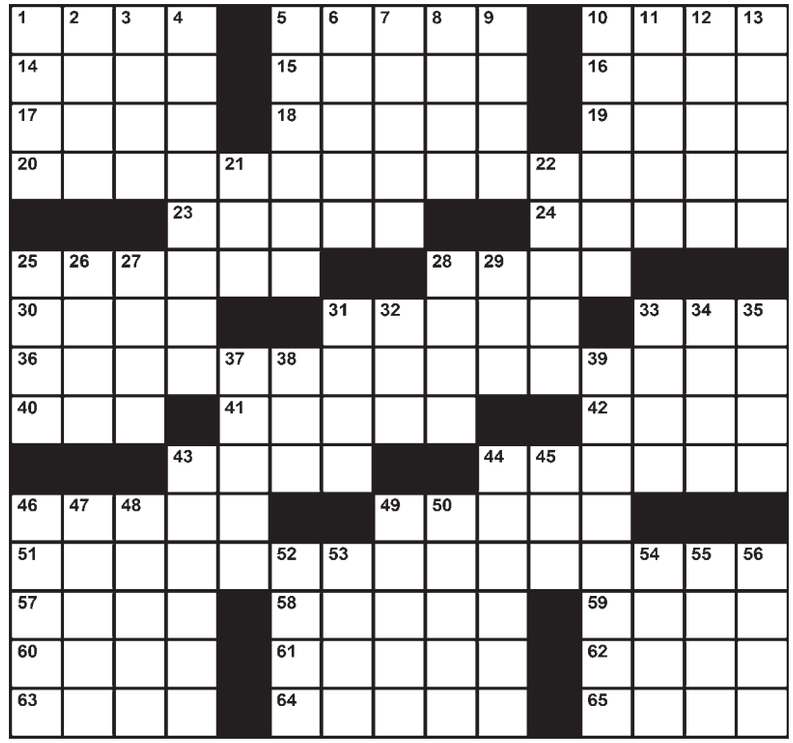
Crossword

FINISHING TOUCHES



EDITED BY TIMOTHY E. PARKER

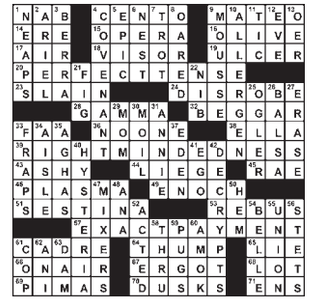
ACROSS

1 Survey map
5 Iraqi port
10 Counterpart of riches
14 Like Ranger John Reid
15 Go in
16 Tutor of Siamese royalty
17 Bone below the elbow
18 "Beauty is only skin-deep," e.g.
19 To-go order
20 Decreasing in speed
23 Spaniard's sign-off
24 Palomino or Clydesdale
25 Tropical flea
28 In the course of
30 Prefix with "space" or "plane"
31 Brother of Moses
33 Systems for speakers (abbr.)
36 Shutting down unceremoniously
40 Alpine road shape
41 Poppycock
42 Prelude to an invention
43 Goat-legged deity
44 It's across the Hudson from New York
46 Old Testament spy
49 Act the drama queen
51 Concluding
57 Nerve network
58 Entomb
59 Wading bird venerated by ancient Egyptians
60 Keys with exclamation points
61 Carrying cargo
62 Christmas quaffs
63 Gas station adjunct, often
64 Burial stone
65 Simmons of Kiss

DOWN

1 "Besides that ..."
2 Act indolent
3 A.D. word
4 Dish-laden cart
5 Cap with a propeller
6 Words after "touch" or "stop"
7 Box score numbers
8 ___ Park, Queens
9 Apartment buyer's concern
10 Muzzle-loading aid
11 Bend ___ (listen attentively)
12 Chews like a rat
13 French explorer La ___
21 "If ___ say so myself"
22 Special occasion dishes
25 Tweety's home
26 Towel embroidery word
27 Pupil locale
28 Straining to be highbrow
29 Barn bellow
31 Abbreviated mystery writer?
32 ___ of Aquarius
33 Goalie's knee guards
34 Away from the bluster
35 Obedience class word
37 Abu ___
38 Debt acknowledgment
39 Menial worker only in it for the money
43 Least possible
44 Actress Kerns
45 List abbr.
46 DVD's kin
47 Basketball game site
48 Procrastinator's promise
49 Piano lesson piece
50 Edible mushroom
52 Lofgren of Springsteen's E Street Band
53 Fly or midge
54 Certain woodwind
55 Zodiac unit
56 De bene ___ (legal phrase)

Friday's Solution



Today in History

1935 Amelia Earhart begins a trip from Honolulu to Oakland, Calif., becoming the first woman to fly solo across the Pacific Ocean.

1943 Britain and the U.S. relinquish extraterritorial rights in China.

1964 U.S. Surgeon General Luther Terry issues the first government report saying smoking may be hazardous to one's health.

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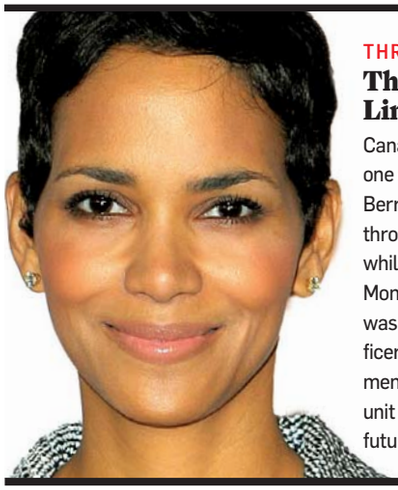
people lookout



THREATS

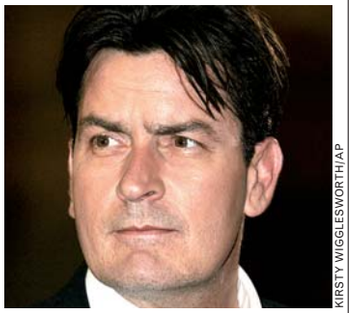
They Probably Cut the Line at Disneyland, Too

Canadian police say it was wrong for one of their officers to whisk Halle Berry, her boyfriend and their baby through Montreal airport security while others waited for an hour last Monday. A police spokesman said it was the personal initiative of one officer and not something the department supported. The police airport unit will institute stricter rules for the future. **(AP)**

ONLY EXPLANATION

Charlie Sheen Fans Actually Paid Actors

Charlie Sheen is back at work at "Two and a Half Men," and the audience at the actor's first show taping since his arrest was "incredibly supportive," said producer and show creator Chuck Lorre. The incident wasn't ignored, but Lorre wouldn't say how it came up backstage. "We did a live show in front of a studio audience, and it was a big success for us," Lorre said. **(AP)**



KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/AP

Stick a wick in his ear and call him a candle, because Charlie's looking waxy.

Dirtbag Digest

Future Victim Role Is Cast

Jon Gosselin has a new girlfriend, Usmagazine.com reported. He is dating 25-year-old Morgan Christie, who he is said to have met while snowboarding in Utah over the Thanksgiving holidays. "They've been inseparable," an anonymous source told the National Enquirer. "They talk on the phone and text throughout the day, and Morgan flew to New York right after Christmas to be with him." Gosselin is apparently "so into" Morgan that he is considering a move to Utah to be nearer to her. **(EXPRESS)**

KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES

The traditional second anniversary gift is cotton. What will he do for that?

ANNIVERSARIES

Proper Gift Is Paper

After being married for only one year, Josh Duhamel surprised his wife, Fergie, with a secret, private vow renewal ceremony at a resort near Santa Barbara, Calif., Wednesday, according to Usmagazine.com. The pair wed the first time on Jan. 10, 2009. They renewed their vows on a bluff overlooking the ocean after arriving via private helicopter. "Fergie was crying and seemed very emotional," a source told Radaronline.com. The pair dined alone at the resort's restaurant, then returned to Los Angeles. **(EXPRESS)**

CASTING

Premium Cable: Where 40+ Actresses Go to Age

Showtime will be looking for laughs from cancer in a new series starring Laura Linney. The network announced Friday that "The Big 'C'" will begin shooting 13 episodes this spring for a fall debut. It's billed as a dark comedy and centers on Linney as a reserved suburban wife and mother whose cancer diagnosis rocks her life, in some ways for the better. **(AP)**

"I do everything I can in my power to fix it. I never said cellulite was cute. But I have it. I embrace it. I'm OK with it!"

—**KIM KARDASHIAN**, ON THE DIMPLED THIGH FAT THAT PLAGUES SO MANY WOMEN. SHE SAID IN A RADIO INTERVIEW THAT CELLULITE HELPS HER FANS RELATE TO HER BETTER.

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